

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING BLUE STAR AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Blue Star (she/her) is an Atlanta native and retired professional ballet dancer that has been curating art in Orlando for over two decades. A creator, business owner, and philanthropist, Blue has helped change the fabric of the Orlando community and creates safe spaces for the LGBTQIA community and their allies. She is the founder of her own 501(c)(3) cancer organization—The Barber Fund—and the owner of BlueLaLa Events Entertainment and Consulting. She is also a former entertainment and board member of Come Out With Pride and Ivanhoe Village. She is currently on the steering committee for Equality Florida, the bidding committee for World Pride Orlando 2026, and the curator of United We Dance—an official week of remembrance event for the One Pulse Foundation.

Blue is an honoree of the Harvey Milk Trailblazer Award, Orlando Magazines Woman of the Year, and 50 Most Powerful. She was recognized by the One Pulse Foundation for her heroic efforts after the Pulse tragedy and sainted by the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. Her artistic recognitions include best performance, favorite dancer, and best actress. Her long-standing show "VariETEASE" has been honored by many organizations for show creation, choreography, and costuming. She is also a City of Orlando honoree of the DTO Golden Brick Award and Business of the Year.

She continues to fight for human rights, create art, make music, and, of course, dance, sing, and act. She does this because art is a tool that can heal a community because we must "KEEP DANCING, ORLANDO," we must keep fighting, and we must "DO SOMETHING."

JOSEPH WOODROW HATCHETT
UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE
AND FEDERAL BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2022

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share my concerns regarding the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act. While I support the underlying bill and appreciate that several Republican Senators finally came to the table to work with Democrats to address our nation's gun violence epidemic, I remain troubled by the legislation's possible expansion of the federal death penalty and the cre-

ation of broad new criminal offenses that may disproportionately impact Black and Brown communities.

Specifically, with regard to the expansion of the federal death penalty, I have not been given a clear answer as to the impact of the legislation's additions to the definition of "racketeering activity" in 18 U.S.C. § 1961(1), commonly known as "RICO predicates." On its face and cross referencing the impacted provisions in Title 18, it appears that murder committed in the furtherance of these new RICO predicates would trigger the federal death penalty. In states that do not have the death penalty, this creates an opportunity for federal prosecutors to seek the death penalty in states where it does not currently exist. It is possible that but for these changes, a new universe of defendants would now be subject to the federal death penalty.

The Senate Judiciary Committee staff circulated a document that appears to confirm my reading of this provision. However, the Department of Justice sent a dismissive e-mail to staff simply stating that "changes to RICO laws do not constitute an expansion of the potential applications of the federal death penalty as a matter of law." While I hope this is indeed the case, DOJ provided no citation to federal law or reference to internal Department memorandum directing charging decisions. I hope that the Department provides Congress with their legal authority on this matter expeditiously.

I also consulted several experts in the criminal justice defense community who also confirmed that this bill expands federal death penalty-eligible offenses. However, there is no consensus as to the magnitude of these expansions. While this may in fact not be a measurable expansion, I have been troubled by the lack of comprehensive legal analysis available for a reasonable understanding of the breadth of this legislation.

While I find this troubling, I will vote in favor of this bill. It should not go uncelebrated that this is the first significant legislative effort in thirty years that attempts to address the scourge of gun violence in our country. I have a long record of supporting measures to curb the epidemic of gun violence and it includes provisions I have long supported. This bill closes the boyfriend loophole for domestic abusers, enhances background checks for those aged 18 to 21 when purchasing a gun, and provides incentives to states to enact red flag laws that protects individuals in crisis from perpetuating further harm on themselves or others. But without adequate time for members and the American public to review the unintended consequences of the many provisions within the bill, many questions are left unanswered where they should not be for such a significant piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, despite my strong concerns, I applaud the bipartisan effort that went into crafting this legislation. With reservations about the bill's potential to expand the federal death penalty, I will vote for yes because of the assurance from the Department of Justice

and the positive strides towards creating safer communities that the bill seeks to achieve.

RECOGNIZING DR. CHAD AUDI

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the outstanding work on behalf of the people of Wayne County and southeastern Michigan by Dr. Chad Audi in his more than two decades as president of Detroit Rescue Mission, an organization dedicated to providing food, shelter, and resources to those struggling to overcome homelessness or substance abuse issues.

Dr. Audi first joined Detroit Rescue Mission as a volunteer. He was struck by the transformative impact the organization had on the countless individuals who sought assistance. In 2004, he joined Detroit Rescue Mission as president and CEO, bringing his expertise in finance and management while continuing to serve those who seek help with dignity and humility. I commend Dr. Audi and the Detroit Rescue Mission staff and volunteers on their success in offering wrap-around assistance programming throughout the coronavirus pandemic.

Please join me in recognizing Dr. Chad Audi's 20-plus years of service to the people of southeastern Michigan and Michigan's 13th District Strong.

HONORING RYAN ANTHONY BECK
AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN
CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE
MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Ryan Anthony Beck was born with his sister on August 30, 1991, in Buffalo, New York. His parents are Michael Wayne Beck and Christina Marie Beck. They lived in Buffalo, New York, until he and his sister were 6 years old and then moved to Orlando, Florida. Ryan has always had a passion for standing up for what he believes in.

He first started volunteering with the Central Florida Human Rights Campaign in 2011, one year after graduating from high school, and joined their steering committee a few years later. Diana Iwanski was the first person to ask Ryan if he could be a part of the social media team at HRC Orlando because he is very vocal on social media. Ryan still remembers that first event like it was yesterday—he had a lot of fun picking up trash for the event and it was the first real time he was around a lot of LGBTQ+ folks. Though it is hard for

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Ryan to believe that it has been 11 years since he first began working with HRC Orlando, he remains as passionate as ever for equality for all.

Diana Iwanski used to say, "Thank you for signing up and showing up" when he would volunteer for an event, and Ryan thinks that is extremely important—getting out into your community and getting involved. Whether working with a community organization or getting out there and protesting, doing something worthwhile in your community is extremely important, especially in this political climate.

RECOGNIZING CLARA BREWER

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Ms. Clara Brewer, a long-time resident of Southwest Detroit in Michigan's 13th District Strong, on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

For more than 70 years, Ms. Brewer has been a cornerstone of not only her family, but her neighborhood-family. She has lived in her home she and her husband bought as newlyweds since 1945. She and her family have grown with our community, and she has without question been a community anchor. Ms. Brewer has remained steadfast in her spiritual faith and in her love for her family, which includes multiple generations in southeastern Michigan. I pray that she continues to shine brightly in our community and be surrounded by the love of her family members near and far.

As the Brewer Family meets for their annual family reunion, please join me in wishing Clara Brewer a happy 100th birthday.

HONORING NANCY GOLDBERG

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Nancy Goldberg upon her retirement as Board President of the Rhoda Goldman Plaza assisted living facility in San Francisco and more than 50 years of nonprofit service.

As Board President, Nancy has steered Rhoda Goldman Plaza through a difficult three years, demonstrating impeccable leadership and ingenuity as assisted living facilities throughout the country navigated unprecedented challenges and worked to establish a new normal related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The residents and staff fared relatively well through this trying time under the guidance of strong management. This work caps off half a century of advocacy on behalf of the Jewish community and tireless efforts to combat human trafficking and domestic violence.

Nancy has served on numerous boards throughout her prolific career, including as a member of the American Jewish Congress, President of the Jewish Family and Children's Services of San Francisco, and Chair of the Jewish Public Affairs Committee of California.

For her outstanding leadership and advocacy on behalf of the Jewish community in California, the Jewish Community Relations Council awarded her both the Earl Raab Award in 2009 and Tom Lantos Memorial Humanitarian Award in 2011 in conjunction with her husband, the late Larry Goldberg.

Dedicating years to fighting human trafficking, Nancy is Co-founder of the Jewish Coalition to End Human Trafficking and Co-founder and first Co-chair of the San Francisco Collaborative Against Human Trafficking (SFCaHT), coordinated by the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW). For this transformative work she earned the SFCaHT's Inspiring Leadership Award in 2019 and NCJW's Hannah G. Solomon Award in 2014. Although she is retiring as President from Rhoda Goldman Plaza, her volunteer pursuits are ongoing.

Nancy's contributions to improving the quality of life for countless individuals throughout the region through public service and philanthropy has been, and will continue to be, productive and enduring. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you join me in expressing gratitude to Nancy for her enduring commitment to public service and extending best wishes for years to come.

HONORING RENEE BISHOP AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Renee Bishop is 43 years old and shares her life with an amazing woman, Rebecca, and daughters Sutton and Piper. She has had the honor of serving and protecting the community and citizens of Orlando for 22 years. As a firefighter/engineer for the Orlando Fire Department, Renee has seen the city go through wonderful changes.

Growing up as the oldest of four with two brothers and a sister, all siblings were very familiar with the fire department as her father worked for the Orlando Fire Department for 30 years and one of her brothers chose this career as well.

Renee and her father were the first father/daughter combo hired at Orlando and a couple of years later, she and her brother were the first brother/sister combo for Orlando. Being a native of Orlando and being a gay female, she has watched the city grow and come to have one of the biggest LGBTQ communities around. Renee is grateful for the political leaders the city has and the dedication they give. Creating opportunities without prejudice has helped the city come so far and she believes it is an amazing transition to watch. The ongoing research and desire to make the community safe and accepting for all people is what Renee and Rebecca love about raising their girls in Orlando.

She feels forever fortunate to not only live in Orlando and the state of Florida but to also serve her community and be there to help when needed the most. First responders are often on the front line when tragedy strikes, and Renee has witnessed various organiza-

tions within the community rally together and stand as one when evil strikes. Orlando has such a diverse population and a multitude of different belief structures, but when it is time to stand together, they do it on a scale that is second to none. Renee believes this is because of the leaders.

HONORING ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise to today to honor St. John's Episcopal Church in Versailles, Kentucky, on their 175th anniversary.

The church was officially established on June 29, 1847, under the leadership of Reverend John N. Norton and Mr. John Amsden. The current church building was consecrated on May 28, 1885. In 1930, the parish house and the chapel, gifts from Senator Johnson Camden and family, were consecrated. The church has been visited by important dignitaries including Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II of England in 1986 and President George Herbert Walker Bush, who worshipped unannounced at St. John's in 1989.

As the congregation gathers to celebrate the 175th anniversary, I recognize the impact that this congregation has made on the Versailles community over the years. The church has reached thousands of people with material needs and spiritual sustenance.

I congratulate the Reverend Dana Lockhart and all the members of St. John's Episcopal Church in Versailles on their 175th anniversary and wish them many more years of successful ministry, serving God and reaching out to the community.

RECOGNIZING GOWANUS CANAL REMEDIAL ACTION ENFORCEMENT TEAM

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the outstanding achievements of Gowanus Canal Remedial Action Enforcement Team at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Region 2 office. Their outstanding efforts at the Gowanus Canal Superfund Site ensured that potentially responsible parties (PRPs) completed the main phase of full-scale dredging in the upper third of the Canal, the first of three phases.

The heavily contaminated urban waterway, a 1.8-mile-long canal in Brooklyn, NY dating from the 1800s, has been contaminated by industrial pollution and combined sewer overflows (CSOs) for over a century. The Site was listed on the National Priorities List in 2010. Since listing, EPA staff assigned to the project include Christos Tsiamis, Remedial Project Manager, Brian Carr, Assistant Regional Counsel, and Natalie Loney, Community Involvement Coordinator. Together, they managed this large complex project in a thorough

and timely manner from feasibility study through remedy selection in a 2013 Record of Decision and remedial design for full-scale dredging and capping with in-situ stabilization and installation of retention tanks to protect the dredged canal from recontamination from combined sewer overflows (CSOs).

The three superfund cleanup sites in New York City fall in my Congressional district and the Gowanus Canal is the furthest along and proceeding at a precedent-setting pace nationally. The Gowanus Canal Community Advisory Group is the largest and most engaged in the Country.

The Team managed enforcement with a disparate group of roughly three dozen PRPs including National Grid, the successor to the operator of coal gasification plants responsible for a significant amount of coal tar related contamination in the Canal, and the City of New York, which owns the canal and is responsible for the sewer infrastructure in the watershed. The City opposed to both the listing of the Gowanus Canal and the CSO portion of the remedy. This made community outreach and enforcement more critical and the EPA team's work in this area has been exceptional.

To achieve the timely start of dredging, Project Manager Christos Tsiamis and Regional Counsel Brian Carr worked tirelessly, issuing unilateral administrative orders in January 2020 to six PRPs, and coordinating with multiple contractors, city agencies, and legal and technical teams to achieve the remedial mobilization.

Dredging canal sediments contaminated with coal tar in this densely populated urban area posed challenges that were overcome through outstanding engineering and oversight by the team. Dredging began in November 2020, and the first phase called Remediation Target Area 1 (RTA1) was completed by mid-2021.

Mr. Tsiamis, Mr. Carr, and Ms. Loney, met regularly with the CAG, local businesses, and other stakeholders. Thanks to their efforts, the main phase of dredging was swiftly completed, setting a high bar for completion of the next two phases of dredging (RTA2 and RTA3). Although enforcement issues remain with respect to the City, obtaining its commitment for this work was a major enforcement accomplishment, a result that the team worked tirelessly and effectively to achieve. For their outstanding work, I would like to recognize EPA Region 2's Gowanus remedial action team: Project Manager Christos Tsiamis, Assistant Regional Counsel Brian Carr, and Community Involvement Coordinator Natalie Loney.

HONORING PASTOR JOSÉ NIEVES
AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN
CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE
MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Pastor José Nieves is a native of Bayamón, Puerto Rico. He graduated from Evangel University in Springfield, Missouri, and earned his master's degree in divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary in Orlando, Florida.

He is ordained as a full elder in the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church.

For over 10 years, he has been at the service of the Kissimmee area at Casa de Paz UMC and First Kissimmee UMC. Pastor José has been named Volunteer of the Year by the Osceola School District for his services to local schools, including the All Pro Dad and iMOM programs.

He continues to find new ways to strengthen the community. Pastor José is married to Libby and has three handsome boys: Ely, Lucas, and Daniel. During his time off, José enjoys everything basketball related, including coaching and rooting for the Orlando Magic. Go Magic.

HONORING GARY RAGGHianti

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the significant career and accomplishments of Gary T. Ragghianti, the 2020 recipient of the Marin County Bar Association's Lifetime Achievement Award.

A Marin County resident since 1948, Gary has dedicated his professional career to public service and the law. He graduated from the University of San Francisco School of Law in 1968 and began trying cases in the Marin County District Attorney's Office in 1969. In 1971, Gary joined the private firm of Conn, Breiner, Birkie & Ragghianti, which became Ragghianti Freitas in 2004. Over the course of his half-century-long career, he has served as the city attorney for San Rafael, Belvedere, Tiburon, and Corte Madera, and spent decades as counsel for other public entities in Marin County.

Gary has served on numerous boards throughout his prolific career, including as President of the San Rafael Public Library Foundation Board of Directors and Vice President of the Marin County History Museum Board of Directors. He is also a two-time member of the Board of Directors of Alternate Defenders, Inc., a nonprofit which provides free legal representation to indigent defendants in Marin County.

Over the course of his illustrious career, Gary has appeared twice before the United States Supreme Court. On the first occasion, he argued on behalf of the City of Tiburon at the age of 35. Then, 30 years later, he appeared again for a federal habeas corpus case, further cementing his reputation as a lawyer who can excel at the highest levels.

Gary's commitment to the legal profession and local government in the County of Marin has been, and will continue to be, productive and enduring. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you join me in expressing gratitude to Gary for his commitment to public service and the law, and extending heartfelt congratulations on his reception of the Marin County Bar Association's Lifetime Achievement Award.

IN CELEBRATION OF JUNE AS
NATIONAL PRIDE MONTH

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, during this month of June, I would like to take the time to recognize Pride Month. Pride is a time to celebrate the LGBTQ+ community and their contributions to our families, communities, and society at large. Pride is an opportunity for Americans to take pride in who we are without fear of discrimination and to stand in solidarity for equality and against hate. As we celebrate, it is imperative that we also recognize that, while our nation has made important progress with respect to LGBTQ+ rights, much work remains to be done.

I am proud to have helped advance statutory improvements to support LGBTQ+ rights during this Congress. We enacted the Jabara-Heyer NO HATE Act that combats hate crimes including crimes motivated by sexual orientation or gender identity. In addition, the law allocates money and resources to collect data on and to support victims of hate crimes. We also designated the Pulse Nightclub as a National Memorial in remembrance of those who lost their lives during the Pulse Nightclub shooting in 2019. Further, I'm proud that the People's House championed equality and opposed hate by passing the Equality Act that would afford LGBTQ+ Americans the critical protections under the Civil Rights Act as well as the Global Respect Act to deny visas to perpetrators of human rights abuses against LGBTQ individuals. The Equality Act is a landmark piece of legislation that eliminates discrimination in every major aspect of life, including education, housing, and federal funding programs that have historically excluded members of the LGBTQ+ community. The Senate should act quickly to pass these important bills to protect LGBTQ individuals in our country and internationally.

As the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Worker and Family Support with jurisdiction over child welfare, I am committed to protecting foster youth and foster parents from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. I worked with my late friend and colleague, John Lewis, to investigate the inappropriate waivers of nondiscrimination rules granted during the Trump Administration that promoted discrimination against foster youth and prospective foster parents. A critical step to protecting foster youth is enacting my legislation—the John Lewis Every Child Deserves a Family Act—that would prohibit any entity that receives federal child welfare funds from discriminating against children, youth, families of origin, kin, or prospective adoptive or foster parents based on religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status. Unfortunately, LGBTQ+ youth are overrepresented in the foster care system. An estimated one in three foster youth identify as LGBTQ+, and they are more likely to experience poor treatment, discrimination, or violence while in care. This bill helps increase the number of supportive, loving, and permanent homes for foster youth.

I am troubled by the recent wave of anti-LGBTQ+ legislation that threatens the safety, health, and equal rights of LGBTQ+ individuals, policies that restrict access to healthcare

and permit discrimination by public/private institutions and businesses against members of the LGBTQ+ community in various ways. Leaders in my home state of Illinois are working to protect the rights of members of the LGBTQ+ community. Unfortunately, not every state offers protection to everyone. I will continue to support my state's efforts and to advance federal efforts to promote equality and protect the civil rights of the LGBTQ+ community.

I encourage those in my home City of Chicago, my state of Illinois, and across our country to embrace Pride Month, join in advocacy for LGBTQ+ rights, and embrace equality. And, if you're in Chicago, I encourage you to celebrate Pride via a number of wonderful events, including Pride Fest, the Chicago Pride Parade, the Pride in the Park music festival, Navy Pier Pride with wonderful family activities, or the Proud to Run 5k/10k or half marathon.

HONORING LIEUTENANT ERIKA CASTELLUCCI AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Lieutenant Erika Castellucci is a true Floridian having been raised in South Florida. She graduated from Florida State University and worked as a senior legal assistant for the capital appeals division of the Florida Attorney General's Office. After a few years, she found a passion to take a more proactive approach and put herself through the Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy. While in the academy, she was recruited to join the Kissimmee Police Department, where she has risen to the rank of lieutenant after 16 years of service.

Lieutenant Castellucci proudly identifies as a lesbian and has been a member of the LGBTQ community for as long as she can remember. As part of her community outreach, she collaborated with The Center in Kissimmee as soon as it opened. Lieutenant Castellucci has been used as a member of the Kissimmee Police Department to highlight the progressive stance the City of Kissimmee takes for all LGBTQ members. She also served on the board for GOAL CFL for 2 years.

During her 16 years at the Kissimmee Police Department, Lieutenant Castellucci has never ignored opportunities to help other LGBTQ members in need. Having her own coming out story from growing up helped drive her motivation to assist anyone struggling to make sure they knew the resources available to them and at times just be an ear to listen to their own struggles. One of her proudest moments was having the opportunity to march in the 2021 Orlando Pride parade hand in hand with her fiancée as people showered all law enforcement with support. In those moments, it shows that we are all human with our own stories to be proud of.

HONORING NEAL EWALD

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Neal Ewald as he retires from a long and productive career with Green Diamond Resource Company (GDRC). Mr. Ewald's 45-year career in the Northern California timber industry has been marked by efforts to improve timber management, environmental protections, and business practices.

Starting as a forester and logging engineer with Arcata Redwood Co. in 1978, Mr. Ewald went on to become the company's Resource Manager. He was then hired by Simpson Timber Co. as Resource Manager, and was later promoted to General Manager. In these roles, Mr. Ewald played a critical role in the acquisition of Arcata Redwood Co., as well as the development of Simpson's Habitat Conservation Plan for the protection of northern spotted owls. He was part of the team that restructured Simpson Timber Co. into GDRC, and was appointed vice president of California Timberlands in 2003.

During his time as vice president and General Manager of GDRC, the company adopted the ambitious Aquatic Habitat Conservation Plan, which guided timber practices to conserve several protected aquatic species. From 2008 to 2018, Mr. Ewald worked diligently with Western Rivers Conservancy to transfer 48,000 acres of sacred land to the Yurok Tribe. Mr. Ewald oversaw the refurbishment of California Redwood Co.'s chip export dock, an investment in Twin Creeks Timber and purchase of 350,000 acres in five southern states, and GDRC's Marten Safe Harbor Agreement and Forest Habitat Conservation Plan.

Promoted to senior vice president in 2019, Mr. Ewald helped GDRC acquire 293,000 acres in Montana, and form the Montana Timberlands Division and its Native Fish Habitat Conservation Plan. With a 90,000-acre expansion of Twin Creeks in 2021, GDRC now owns and manages 2.2 million acres in 10 states.

A consummate traveler, scuba diver, pilot, and family man, Mr. Ewald has served as a volunteer for numerous timber and agriculture advocacy organizations, and as a board member of Hospice of Humboldt, Humboldt State University, the Humboldt Area Foundation, and the Eureka Chamber of Commerce.

Madam Speaker, Neal Ewald's many contributions to the North Coast community as a leader for Green Diamond Resource Co. will leave a lasting impression for generations. Please join me in congratulating him on a prosperous career and an exciting and meaningful retirement.

AMERICAN PORT ACCESS PRIVILEGES ACT OF 2022

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the "American Port Access Privi-

leges Act of 2022," with my friend and colleague Congressman JIM COSTA (D-CA). The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the shortcomings in the international ocean shipping industry and the global supply chain. Congress must restore fairness at our ports for American exporters to help reduce the United States' longstanding trade imbalance with countries like mainland China. Our legislation seeks to do just that, building upon my bipartisan Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-146) signed by President Biden on June 16, 2022.

Foreign-flagged vessels' access to the American market and its consumers is a privilege, not a right. Even during a global pandemic, multinational companies looking to offload foreign-made products at West Coast ports must provide opportunities for American exports in return. California's agricultural exporters, manufacturers, and other businesses are willing to pay to ensure their products reach emerging markets in the Asia-Pacific. Dozens of agricultural exporters have contacted my office reporting that ocean carriers simply refused to accept cargo bookings for American exports, instead sending containers back empty to East Asia as quickly as possible. Congress must ensure reciprocity in trade and the ocean shipping industry, which is dominated by a handful of foreign-flagged ocean carriers. Some of these foreign ocean carriers are effectively state-controlled enterprises.

Our "American Port Access Privileges Act" would correct the structural disadvantages facing American exporters at our nation's ports by rewarding ocean carriers that serve both importers and exporters. First, the bill would codify the current preferences for military, Jones Act, and other U.S.-flagged vessels in place at many major American ports. Second, the bill would establish a secondary berthing preference for ocean-going commercial vessels servicing multiple ports in the United States or with significant cargo bookings of American exports.

This new preferential berthing will reward ocean carriers that serve both importers and American exporters by moving those vessels to the front of the queue for unloading and loading. It will similarly incentivize ocean carriers to make second-leg voyages to ports like the Port of Oakland, which is critical for California's agricultural exporters. Any port authority seeking federal funding from the Maritime Administration's port infrastructure development grant program would be required to accept these berthing preferences.

However, our bill ensures that the new preferential berthing and port access for export carrying-vessels would never interfere with U.S. Coast Guard orders for commercial vessels, port safety, or collective bargaining agreements for port workers. I recognize that the international shipping industry is variable and that cargo bookings often change last minute, requiring ocean carriers, port operators, and maritime workers to remain flexible. That is why our American Port Access Privileges Act would require that export-carrying vessels seeking preferential berthing report cargo bookings at least 7 days in advance to port operators.

Lastly, our bill would authorize the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics to collect data on berthing and cargo practices at U.S. ports. This will

evaluate ocean carriers' practices for port calls and cargo bookings, as well as the impact of preferential berthing afforded under our bill. A similar data-collection provision sponsored by U.S. Senator ROGER F. WICKER's (R-MS) on container and chassis availability is incorporated as Section 16 (Dwell Time Statistics) of the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-146), of which I was the House sponsor.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members to co-sponsor the American Port Access Privileges Act to ensure fair trade for U.S. businesses and keep hard-won foreign markets accessible to California's agricultural exporters. As a senior member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the former ranking member of the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation from the 113th to the 115th Congresses, I plan to make this legislation a major priority.

HONORING KERI K. GRIFFIN AS A
DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CEN-
TRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE
MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Keri Griffin has been working as a clinical social worker since 1996. Keri's first job was working in detox at Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton, Ohio. Keri then graduated from the University of Dayton in 1997 with a major in psychology and minors in social work and sociology. Keri graduated with her master's in social work from the University of Maryland School of Social Work in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1999 with a clinical concentration and substance abuse specialization.

While working on her master's, Keri worked at the Social Work Community Outreach Service at Maree Farring Elementary School and with the University of Maryland Medical System intensive outpatient program and maternal substance abuse and acupuncture program. After graduating with her master's, Keri continued to work in Baltimore at the Johns Hopkins University Cornerstone program and the University of Maryland Medical System comprehensive recovery program. Keri moved to Florida in 2000 and became a licensed clinical social worker and a certified addictions professional in the state of Florida. Keri has worked with Lakeside Alternatives at the Orange Regional Juvenile Detention Center, at the Center for Drug-Free Living Addiction Receiving Facility, as well as at the Women's Residential Program in Kissimmee and at Mental Health Network.

For almost 17 years, Keri has worked at the Orlando VA Health Care System. Keri worked for her first 5 years at the VA in the alcohol and drug abuse treatment program and for 12 years as a therapist in the mental health clinic. For the past 12 years, Keri has served in collateral duty roles as the Orlando VA's LGBTQ+ special emphasis program manager and veteran care coordinator—providing support and services for employees and veteran patients as well as training and education, outreach, and development of community partnerships. Through dedication and hard work, Keri

was able to facilitate and elevate the LGBTQ+ veteran care program coordinator to a full-time position at the OVAHCS as of Fiscal Year 2021-22. Keri serves as the VA VISN 8 LGBTQ+ veteran care coordinator lead, is the national LGBTQ+ VCC lead forum lead, developed and facilitates a monthly inter-disciplinary LGBTQ+ treatment team at the OVAHCS, and chairs the OVAHCS LGBTQ+ special emphasis program working closely with the diversity and inclusion team and the EEO at the OVAHCS.

Due to her hard work with the LGBTQ+ veteran population at the VA, Keri received national I CARE awards in 2015, 2018, 2020, and 2021, the VA Social Worker of the Year Award for 2016, and a National Special Contribution Award in 2016 for her contributions after the Pulse tragedy. Keri recently received a Certificate of Special Recognition for Federal Employee of the Year, Honorable Mention, for Service to the Community for Central Florida 2022.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH
BIRTHDAY OF AMY LANGDON

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Amy Langdon on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Her contributions to our community as a Rosie the Riveter are worthy of commendation.

Born on July 25, 1922, Mrs. Langdon was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan, she attended Northern High School until her family moved to Huntington Woods, Michigan prior to her senior year. She graduated from Royal Oak High School in 1940. She later attended Michigan State University where she studied History. During her summers off from college she worked at Hudson's in Downtown Detroit. In 1943 she was offered the opportunity to serve her country and work at the Highland Park Ford plant where she did the electrical wiring on the M-5 Director, which determined the altitude of an aerial targets. Working on this confidential project, she didn't know the names of the other women she worked with and wasn't able to tell her family about her top-secret job. She played a critical role in supporting American troops overseas and provided for the defense of our soldiers during World War II. As one of the original Rosie the Riveters, Amy's hard work, grit, and patriotism not only sustained the American war effort, but paved a path for the next generation of working women.

While attending Michigan State University she met her husband, who served in the United States Air Force. She traveled to the military base by train on her own and they married on March 20, 1945. Together they spent their life raising their family and traveling to over fifty-five countries. In her spare time, she is an avid golfer, puzzle enthusiast, and talented oil painter. The longest running volunteer in Beaumont hospital history, she has delivered mail to patients for over forty-five years until COVID hit. An active member of her community and a friend to all, she is a longtime member of Philanthropic Educational Opportunities for Women and multiple garden

clubs. Beloved by her family, she made sure that she hosted Thanksgiving every year. The biggest Michigan State sports fan, she never misses a football or basketball game.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating Amy Langdon on her 100th birthday. I join with her family—including her two children, two grandchildren, and two great grandchildren and friends in extending my best and warmest wishes to her on this special day and as they dedicate a rosebush in her honor at the Ross McFadden House in Dearborn. I am proud to honor her life, her accomplishments, and her invaluable contributions to our nation as a Rosie the Riveter. Today we should all live by her motto as we celebrate one hundred years of Amy—Yesterday is gone, tomorrow isn't here yet, I live for today.

HONORING MR. PEDRO "PETE"
MORALES

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life achievements of Mr. Pedro "Pete" Morales, in celebration of his 80th birthday. Born June 22, 1942, Mr. Morales has selflessly served his community in Red Hook, Brooklyn for over 73 years.

When he was a boy, Pete Morales' family was one of the first from Puerto Rico to move into Red Hook public housing. Being a minority among Irish and Italian immigrants made them a target. Pete's father had to send his son back to Puerto Rico for a period after Pete's younger brother Nelson was badly beaten. Nevertheless, Pete returned to Red Hook to box every one of his brother's attackers and grew to get along with everybody regardless of nationality or ethnicity. Everyone grew to love Pete.

As Commissioner of the Red Hook Youth baseball league, Pete Morales coached generations of kids growing up in his beloved community. Pete has also been a voice for tenant rights, affordable housing and served as an active member of Fifth Avenue Committee's advisory board for new affordable housing in the neighborhood. Pete has also been a tireless advocate for the environment and better neighborhood conditions through Red Hook Groups Against Garbage Sites (GAGS) which fought a massive trash incinerator and countless solid waste transfer stations seeking to cluster in the community which were successfully reversed. Mr. Morales has long served at Visitation Church as a Eucharistic Minister and continues to be a recognized elder.

Mr. Morales remains a solid pillar of the community, well respected by generations of neighbors, leaders, and the local clergy from his decades of community service. Through his life-long dedication to his community, Pete Morales has made Red Hook a better place to live. I thank Mr. Pedro Morales for his public service and offer him best wishes for a well-deserved and happy 80th birthday.

HONORING JASON HARRIS AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Jason Harris is a Florida native who completed his master's degree in community psychology at Florida A&M University. Jason has a wealth of clinical experience across a variety of settings, including inpatient specialty clinics such as juvenile detention centers and Federal/state prison(s), crisis intervention, structured outpatient programs, inpatient psychiatric, and large non-profits.

Jason has a broad range of clinical experience working with individuals and groups across the life span in the areas of anxiety, substance abuse, behavioral and discipline challenges, self-harm behavior, anger, stress management, trauma, abuse, family, relationship issues, suicide assessment, risk reduction, group psychotherapy, and self-image and self-esteem issues.

Jason's approach emphasizes the mutual development of goals for therapy and the provision of ongoing evaluation of the therapeutic approach. Jason is invested in emphasizing a more integrative, dynamic, cultural, and holistic approach to mental health.

Jason is currently the lead therapist working with juveniles from ages 13 to 21. The program is a 9 to 12 residential commitment program—Kissimmee Youth Academy, Youth Opportunity Investments, LLC—where the youth are given weekly individual sessions, daily group therapy sessions, and monthly family sessions. In addition, Jason is one of the therapists/allies/members with The Center Orlando providing emotional support and counseling to LGBTQIA+ community members. Through his efforts and commitment, Jason is dedicated to providing hope for a better and brighter tomorrow through healing, emotional regulation, and progressive counsel.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PELL GRANT

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Pell Grant Program.

In 1972, Congress amended the Higher Education Act by creating the Basic Educational Opportunity Grant to provide direct financial aid to low-income students so they would have the same access to higher education and opportunity for success as their higher income peers. But this process was not without its trials and tribulations. It is not lost on me the incredible tenacity of the late Lois Dickson Rice—the “mother of the Pell Grant”—whose work with the College Entrance Examination Board was instrumental in the creation of the Basic Education Opportunity Grant later named the Pell Grant for its original sponsor, the late Senator Claiborne Pell, Democrat from Rhode Island.

I want to take a moment to speak about a constituent of mine who is spending her summer working in my office, Fatimah Toure. She is a rising senior at Seton Hall University studying political science and Africana Studies. She is one of over 27,000 Pell Grant recipients in New Jersey's 10th congressional district and a scholar of the campus-based Equal Opportunity Program (EOP). As a first generation American and low-income student, the Pell Grant has allowed Fatimah to achieve and complete her higher education without financial worries. She told me that “College was always part of my plan, but I didn't know how to pay for it. I didn't want to burden my parents and be the reason they couldn't retire, but I also didn't want to take out thousands of dollars in loans. The Pell Grant assisted me and my family in ensuring we can achieve our American dream.” By virtue of qualifying for the Pell Grant, Fatimah and 49 other low-income students were admitted into Seton Hall's EOP, where they were enrolled in intensive academic courses and formed long-lasting bonds over a 6-week period before they began their freshman year. Not only did the Pell Grant and Educational Opportunity Program provide financial assistance for Fatimah, but she was also afforded academic support: tutoring, structured study, academic advisement, summer courses, community service opportunities, internships, and counseling services throughout her college experience.

The program leveled the playing field, so Fatimah was not financially, academically, or socially isolated. The benefits of the Pell Grant have not only served Fatimah, but also two of her siblings, one of whom is a graduate from Rowan University, and the other a rising senior at Rutgers University. To date, more than 80 million students have received a Pell Grant to go to college since the program's creation. Currently, nearly 7 million students are going to college with Pell Grants, or about 40 percent of undergraduate students.

In New Jersey's 10th district, 27,085 students receive nearly \$121 million to pursue their higher education goals at our local colleges. Rutgers University, with one of its campuses located in Newark within my district, has more than 18,000 Pell recipients, providing over \$91 million in aid each year to students. Roughly 60 percent of Rutgers—Newark students receive Pell Grants, which is instrumental in their pursuit of higher education.

During this month as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Pell Grant program, I encourage the United States to celebrate “National Pell Grant Day,” recognizing the current students and successful graduates who have benefited from the program by telling their student success stories and encouraging the same access for future students.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to Congress continuing the bipartisan support for low-income student access to college through the Pell Grant for another 50 years. I am proud to join many of my colleagues on the bipartisan resolution declaring June 23, 2022, National Pell Grant Day this year, and in many years in the future.

RECOGNIZING JEROME “BIG DUCK” SMITH, CIVIL RIGHTS PIONEER AND FREEDOM RIDER

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jerome “Big Duck” Smith, a New Orleans Native Civil Rights Pioneer and Icon of the Freedom Riders.

Jerome “Big Duck” Smith, a life-long resident of New Orleans, Louisiana, is considered a stalwart of the Civil Rights Movement locally and nationally.

It was 72 years ago that Jerome Smith, then 10 years old, removed the screen that acted as a barrier between white and black passengers on a New Orleans streetcar. “The streetcar became very hostile,” Smith recalls. The event took place 5 years before Rosa Parks energized the civil rights movement on December 1, 1955, when she refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger in Montgomery, Alabama.

Smith says that as he sat in the white section of the streetcar in Louisiana, an older black woman from the rear of the car descended on him, hitting him so hard that “It felt like there was a bell ringing in my head.” The woman loudly said she would teach the boy a lesson, telling him, “You should never do that, disrespect white people. You have no business trying to sit with them.”

She forced Smith off the streetcar, and around the back of an auto store. But once they were behind the building, the woman's tone changed. “Never, ever stop,” the woman told Smith as she began to cry. “I'm proud of you,” she said. “Don't you ever quit.”

Smith's involvement in the Civil Rights Movement dates back to the late 1950s when he joined the New Orleans chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality (“CORE”) as a 19-year-old student at Southern University of New Orleans. From boycotting stores that refused to hire or serve Blacks to sit-ins along Canal Street, CORE's substantial contributions were integral to the Civil Rights Movement from 1960 onward. Speaking of CORE, the late Rudy Lombard stated, “They had ‘a certain confidence,’ . . . because they came out of a culture that was so rich. They knew that everything that was unique about the city could be traced to the Black presence.”

Thereafter, Smith challenged Federal desegregation laws across the South as a member of the Freedom Riders. Throughout his travels, Smith participated in numerous protests that resulted in battle wounds. In fact, Smith had been beaten at least 12 times by mobs or police during the struggle. On May 24, 1963, Smith met with Attorney General Robert Kennedy and a host of celebrities and civil rights leaders in New York City to discuss the state of civil rights in the United States. During this meeting, it is said Smith emotionally told the United States' Attorney General, “I've seen you guys [from the Justice Department] stand around and take notes while we're being beaten.” Despite grave injustice and adversity of the times, Smith made a profound impact on civil rights history.

Beyond the Civil Rights Movement, Smith continued to impact our city, particularly in the Tremé Community in New Orleans, Louisiana.

In 1968, Smith founded Tambourine and Fan to instill important culture, history, and tradition in New Orleans youth. He continues to teach classes modeled on those of the Freedom Schools during the 1964 Freedom Summer. "Children in the Center recite lyrics of 'Strange Fruit,' the names of the four young girls killed in the Birmingham, Alabama Church-fire of 1963, the Neville Brothers' 'Sister Rosa,' and chants of Mardi Gras Indians who will 'not bow down.'"

Jerome Smith has mentored multitudes of individuals across the city for decades and continues to do so. Smith is the definition of a true warrior, and his legacy continues to inspire people everywhere.

If it was not for the courage of this stellar man, I have to wonder if I would be allowed to stand before you today. For that, I am beyond humble to stand on his shoulders leading the constituents of Louisiana's 2nd Congressional District. The world could never thank him enough for all he has done in his lifetime. A huge thank you to Louisiana's adopted son as he continues his fight to stand for the rights of equal justice.

HONORING GABE CSIZMADIA AS A
DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CEN-
TRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE
MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Gabe Csizmadia (he/him) was born and raised in Hungary in a family with strong ethical and family values. He immigrated to the United States at the age of 20 with the desire to build a better life and live the American Dream.

In 2014, Gabe earned his Master of Business Administration with honors from the University of Phoenix. In 2018, he began his career as a financial advisor with Edward Jones in Kissimmee, Florida. He serves his local community by offering financial literacy events and helping clients achieve their financial goals, with an increased focus on serving the LGBT members of his community.

As an active member of the Central Florida area, Gabe is a passionate advocate for human rights, animal welfare, and LGBT rights. Gabe proudly serves on the board of directors for The Pride Chamber in Orlando and chairs the Pride Chamber's Programming Committee with the mission to create and host inclusive programs and events for local LGBT business owners and allies. He also serves as one of the diversity and inclusion leaders for his region at his firm, Edward Jones, with the goal of raising awareness of inclusion in the workplace. His mission is to help create and foster an environment of belonging for all co-workers and to attract diverse talent to the firm.

Gabe resides in Kissimmee and operates his Edward Jones branch in Orlando, Florida. In his free time, he enjoys visiting the local theme parks, spending time in the kitchen making his favorite meals, and traveling the world with his husband, Ralph.

HONORING VERSAILLES,
KENTUCKY

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the city of Versailles, Kentucky, on its 230th anniversary.

Located in Woodford County, Versailles was founded June 23rd, 1792. This was only 22 days after the Commonwealth of Kentucky was accepted into statehood. The city was located on 80 acres of land that was owned by Hezekiah Briscoe, who at that time was only a child. It was named for Versailles, France, in honor of General Lafayette and his contributions to the victory in the American Revolution.

Versailles is located in the beautiful Central Kentucky area. The area is renowned for its thoroughbred horse farms, bourbon distilleries, and small-town charm. Over its history, Versailles has been home to military leaders, artists, actors, athletes, and politicians. Tourists from all over the world visit this beautiful town, with the most famous visitors including Queen Elizabeth II and President George H.W. Bush. Versailles is currently led by Mayor Brian Traugott.

Thank you to the Woodford County Historical Society for preserving the history of this wonderful town and for organizing the 230th anniversary celebration. As the citizens of Versailles remember their history, I wish them all the best for a bright future.

ANTICIPATING U.S. VS. WALES IN
THE WORLD CUP

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer congratulations ahead of this year's World Cup in November. For the first time in 8 years, the U.S. men's national soccer team has qualified for the most important tournament in world soccer. As the Chairman of the Congressional Friends of Wales Caucus, I would also like to congratulate Wales on reaching the World Cup for the first time since 1958.

The historic links between the United States and Wales are very strong. The Welsh were among the early settlers to North America to pursue religious liberty and the opportunity to create a better life for themselves and their descendants. At least five signers of the Declaration of Independence had a Welsh background, including its primary author, Thomas Jefferson. By now there are endless links between the United States and Wales, from economic to academic to cultural connections.

On November 21, 2022, a new link will be created. The countries will face each other in the first match of their World Cup campaigns—and it will be the first time the United States and Wales have faced each other in a World Cup. This day will be a special day for Americans, Welsh, and Welsh-Americans all around the world to come together and celebrate what both countries have achieved.

As one of the millions of Welsh-Americans, I look forward to cheering both countries in the

World Cup—albeit on November 21 I will be supporting the United States.

HONORING DANIEL J. DOWNER AS
A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN
CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE
MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Daniel J. Downer is a community advocate, facilitator, and public speaker with a long history of advocating for Black and Brown, LGBTQ+, racial, and social movements in Central Florida. Daniel combines his lived experience with his educational and professional expertise to create movements in addressing diversity, equity, health equity, HIV, inclusion, and LGBTQ+ issues.

Daniel currently serves as the executive director of The Bros in Convo Initiative, a community organization in Orlando educating and empowering gay and queer individuals of color through comprehensive health education, linkage, and peer support. He is also an associate facilitator for The Equality Institute, a boutique DEI firm providing relevant, impactful, and comprehensive solutions to organizations to help build and strengthen their strategy and infuse diversity and inclusion into the culture, enhancing outcomes for everyone.

Daniel sits on the board of directors of RAHMA, a Black Muslim-led organization addressing HIV/AIDS in faith communities through education, advocacy, and empowerment. He serves as the All-Black Lives Fund Steering Committee co-chair of Contigo Fund, a philanthropic effort to strengthen and network existing agencies and to identify and support grassroots efforts that advance Latinx and LGBTQ+ causes. He also sits on the board of directors of One Orlando Alliance and is the founder of the Black Boardroom Leadership Institute, a one-of-a-kind leadership training program that brings together both nonprofit organizations and leaders with a goal to guide culture change and create an ideal environment of inclusion of diverse voices in service to boards.

In acknowledgment of his commitment to health, racial, and social equity, Daniel was awarded the 2018 GLAAD Rising Star Award, the Red Door Foundation's 2019 Leadership Achievement Award, Watermark's Most Remarkable Person in Central Florida in 2020, and the Orlando Trailblazer Award in 2021 at the annual Harvey Milk Breakfast and LGBT+Center Diversity Awards.

RECOGNIZING THE JUNE CON-
STITUENT OF THE MONTH KEVIN
LEE

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize Carlsbad resident Kevin Lee as my June Constituent of the Month. Lee has dedicated countless hours to advocate for the LGBTQ+ community and help

make our community a more inclusive and welcoming place. Through his work, Lee has inspired many others to join in his efforts to support the LGBTQ+ community.

Kevin Lee is the Chair and a Founding Member of the San Diego Queer Asian, Pacific Islander, Middle Eastern, and Desi American (QAPIMEDA) Coalition. In this capacity, Lee works with his QAPIMEDA leadership team to build out programming and a sense of belonging for the LGBTQ+ API community in San Diego. Now more than ever it is important that all LGBTQ+ members of our community feel welcome and have the support they need, and I am grateful for Kevin's work to foster that in our region.

Kevin Lee also serves as Environmental Impact and Compliance Specialist at Dr. Bronner's, a local organic body care and food company. In this position, Lee works to advance green initiatives, monitors the company's environmental impact, manages environmental compliance, and co-chairs the Dr. Bronner's Green Team. As we work to combat the climate crisis, companies like Dr. Bronner's must lead the way in reducing their environmental footprint and help protect our planet for future generations, and I am proud of people like Kevin who are doing that work every day.

Through his work as an environmental rights and LGBTQ+ advocate, Kevin has dedicated countless hours to better our community and inspired many others to join in his efforts. During Pride Month, I am proud to celebrate the exceptional work of individuals like Kevin Lee who volunteer their time and contribute to our unique and beautiful district. I am so grateful for CA-49 residents who dedicate their lives to the betterment of our residents and community, and I am proud to honor Kevin Lee as my June Constituent of the Month.

RECOGNIZING WINDBER BOROUGH

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Borough of Windber as it celebrates its 125th anniversary of incorporation.

The Borough of Windber was established in 1897. The first people to settle here were the miners and energy producers who came to our area to mine the metallurgic coal that we still use and rely on to this day. Since its beginnings, Windber has grown to be an essential part of western Pennsylvania—and is home to businesses and organizations including Windber Hospital, that do incredible work for the Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Windber has been recognized for the important work that was done here which included mine the coal, produce the lumber, and create the fire bricks that would build cities and towns across our region.

It is an honor to recognize the Borough of Windber's Quasquicentennial celebration, and I look forward to continuing to work with residents and community leaders in Windber to bring the resources, tools, and family-sustaining jobs that are needed to ensure another successful century.

HONORING ANDONI MOLINA BLANCO AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Andoni Molina Blanco is a pharmacist located in Winter Gar-

den and originally from Spain. After becoming a pharmacist in 1996, he decided to move back to his hometown in northern Spain. In 1997, he met Juan Bengoechea—his companion in life ever since and husband since 2014.

After almost 20 years of working as a pharmacist in Spain, the couple decided to start a new chapter in their lives and moved abroad. In 2015, Andoni started working as a pharmacy intern in Miami, becoming a licensed pharmacist in Florida in 2016. In 2017, they decided to move to Orlando after Andoni accepted a job offer from Walmart Pharmacy. In 2018, he became pharmacy manager at store 4159 in Kissimmee, where he enjoys reaching and engaging with his patients and the Hispanic community.

In 2020, Walmart created the Health and Wellness Days of Giving—a program where pharmacy managers can provide funding to a healthcare organization of their choice. This gave Andoni the opportunity to get in contact with the LGBTQ+ organization, The Center Kissimmee, for the first time. That first year, two other pharmacy managers joined him in supporting The Center.

In 2021, Andoni continued his support for The Center and advocated for others to join. This time, a total of five pharmacy managers supported The Center. In December of 2021, he was invited to participate and represent Walmart Pharmacy in the first World AIDS Day fair hosted by The Center and the Florida Department of Health in Osceola County.

This year, he participated in the Minority Health Month fair hosted by the NAACP and the Florida Department of Health. Additionally, all 13 Walmart stores in Andoni's market will support The Center in their efforts of purchasing a new van that will offer mobile HIV testing around Central Florida.

In February of this year, Andoni became a proud U.S. citizen.